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Security Council**

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**The situation in Central America: procedures for
the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and
progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom,
democracy and development**

**Letter dated 14 May 2001 from the Permanent Representative of
Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to call your attention to the statement on the upcoming electoral process in Nicaragua, issued on 8 May 2001 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pierre Schori
Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 14 May 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the upcoming electoral process in Nicaragua, issued on 8 May 2001 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union follows with great interest the preparations for the upcoming general elections to be held in Nicaragua in November 2001.

The Union considers that a representative, inclusive and transparent electoral process would greatly contribute to the strengthening of democracy in the country.

In this respect, the Union supports a process which will enable all parties and candidates that fulfil the legal requirements to fully participate in the elections.

With a view to contributing to the satisfactory conduct of the elections, the Union is currently exploring the possibilities of offering its assistance and support, in accordance with the Nicaraguan authorities, by means of, inter alia, an election observation mission.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.